

CIA OPERATIONS CENTER

NEWS ANALYSIS SERVICE

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THE NEW YORK TIMES, SUNDAY, MARCH 17, 1974

Norman Mailer

When Norman Mailer

turned 50 years old last year, he threw a \$50-a-couple party for 500 people to announce the formation of the Fifth Estate, a foundation that would investigate the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Central Intelligence Agency and determine "how far paranoia is justified."

In the 13 months since, Mr. Mailer has spoken on more than 20 campuses and has compiled a list of several hundred people interested in keeping tabs on public tabkeepers. Now the Fifth Estate

is about to announce a merger with a Washington-based group called the Committee for Action Research on the Intelligence Community, which has spent a year compiling a library, publishing a magazine and uncovering political informers.

The new outfit, to be called the Organizing Committee for a Fifth Estate, will have a budget of \$30,000, much of it to come from solicitation and some of it donated by Mr. Mailer. According to Tim Butz, coordinator, the group will conduct a "counterspy campaign" led by "campus and community-based research and action, cadres."

C. Mailer

Comment:

These comments represent the initial and tentative reaction of the CIA Operations Center and of the appropriate analytic component in the Agency to the attached item from the news wire services